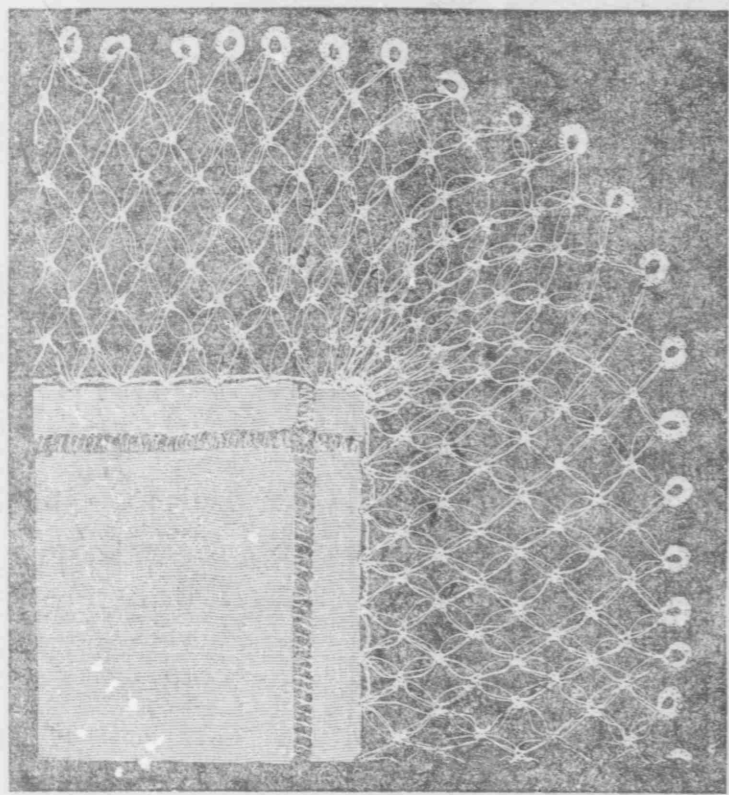


SCHOOL FOR HOUSEWIVES—By Marion Harland

FOR THE WOMAN WHO IS DEFT WITH THREAD AND NEEDLE

A KNOT-LACE BORDER
FOR A HANDKERCHIEF

KNOT LACE BORDER

UT perfectly square a piece of fine lawn or linen to measure about eight inches. To have it perfectly square, pull a few threads on each side until one thread runs along one side. The hem must be about half an inch deep all around when completed; therefore to prepare the linen for the hemstitch you must pull the required number of threads (say 12 or 15) a little over an inch from the edge of the linen; then fold the hem and begin the hemstitch.

The hemstitch being completed, proceed as follows for the border: With a very fine crochet needle and number 100 flax

linen thread, you first insert your hook on the edge of the linen and make a single stitch to fasten your thread in the side of the hem. Then insert the hook with a pin; it is less trying on both the linen and your patience.

Now comes the knot-stitch border. Draw the thread or loop which is on your needle out until it is about three-eighths of an inch in length; pull your thread through this once; now slip your needle downward under the thread just connected with the first loop (there are three threads in all); pull thread through, then pull it through both stitches on needle.

FOUR LESSONS IN HEMSTITCHING

YOUNG friend came to me not long ago quite discouraged and said: "I wish that those describing fancy work in magazines would not always say 'First hemstitch this or that.' I have to stop there, as I cannot do it."

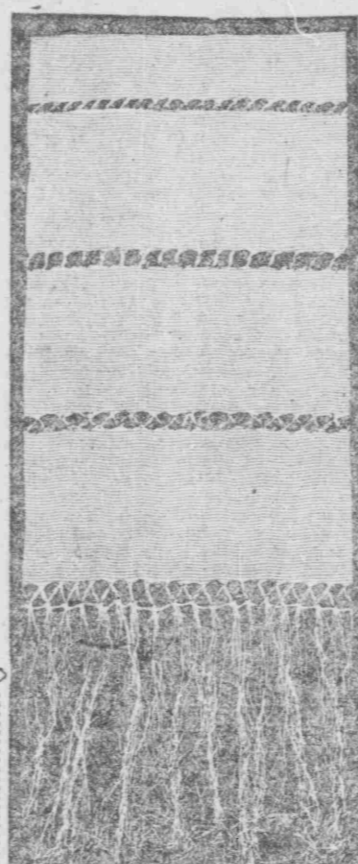
As a matter of fact many who are familiar with needlework are in the same predicament as my young friend. Yet there is no daintier finish for almost any household linen or personal lingerie than hemstitch in its various forms. It is easily and quickly done, and not any more trying to the eyes than any other form of needlework.

It is, moreover, the first step in the art of drawn work, which is justly popular, and I hope that all readers who have not yet mastered the art will try it now.

The first thing is to draw the threads twice the width of the hem wanted from the edge. Then turn the hem under in the ordinary way and baste it down smoothly, having the turned-under edge even with the upper side of the drawn spaces.

Hold the work as most convenient. While some hold the folded hem next to them, I find it preferable to hold it away from me; but the work is the same in any case.

For the single or plain hemstitch, having prepared the hem as directed, fasten your thread in at the right, take up 6 or 7 drawn threads, carry the working



FOUR HEMSTITCHES

is the knot-stitch, and that stitch, with a little ring of imitation tatting, completes the border, which is not worked round and round the handkerchief as might be supposed, but out from the hem and back to it again each row.

After fastening your thread on the side of the linen, make 10 knot-stitches, one succeeding the other; chain 6, turn back and join with a single in first of 6 chains, thus forming a little loop; in this circle make 15 singles and fasten with a single into first chain, which will complete the point of imitation tatting. This ring is made at the end of each outward row of the border.

On "returning" make 2 knot-stitches, then fasten with single in lower part of second knot-stitch of previous row, fasten again with single in same place, and repeat from * to 4 times; except that after the last 2 knot-stitches you fasten into your hem with single in the same place as previous single. Chain 5, single into the hem nearly one-half of an inch from last single.

Make 1 knot-stitch and fasten with a single in upper part of first knot-stitch of previous row, another single in the same place; make 2 knot-stitches, fasten with singles between 2 and 4 knot-stitches; make 2 knot-stitches and fasten between 3rd and 4th; 2 knot-stitches, and fasten between 7th and 8th; 2 more and fasten between 9th and 10th. Now make only 1 knot-stitch and the ring of imitation tatting (loop of 6 chains into which 15 singles are worked). All the outward rows are similar to this.

Make 2 knot-stitches and fasten between 2nd and 3rd knot-stitches. Repeat to end of row and fasten with single into hem in the same place as previous single. Chain 5, single into hem about one-half an inch from last single. All return rows are like this.

In turning the corners, the singles in the hem must be placed much closer together, beginning to make them close to each other about half an inch from the corner on each side. Of course the number of rows to be made to turn the corner smoothly varies with the worker, as some work more loosely than others. Care must be taken that the lace does not pull at the edge, nor must it be too full, although a certain fullness is required.

When making the last row, fasten it with the first on every other knot, thus closing the border. Crochet and knot-lace must not be ironed; it simply requires pulling out into shape; it is sometimes well to pin it tight on a board while drying.

"COMING OUT" EXPENSES

The society girl no longer makes her debut in a modest home gathering dressed in a plain white frock. She "comes out" to the accompaniment of the costliest music that money can engage, wearing the most magnificent gown that the modiste can design, and amid scenes of splendor that must be paid for by the signing of numerous four-figure checks by the doting father.

For a long time parents in the social swim in various cities have been vying with each other to give the costliest

thread to the left and back to the right, around or under the point of the needle, draw close to form a knot which holds the threads you have taken up together, then insert the needle in the edge of the hem and draw it through. After a little practice, the whole may be done at once.

The top row in the illustration shows the plain or single hemstitch; the 2d row shows the double hemstitch, called "ladder-bar" hemstitch, the same group of threads being taken up on each side of the drawn space. The third row shows the double-hemstitch, made as follows: The plain hemstitch is made on one side of the drawn space, bunching the drawn threads in even groups of 4 or 5 threads or more. On the other side of the drawn space you make again the plain hemstitch, this time taking half the threads of one of the groups made on the other side, and half the threads of the next group to form one bunch. This makes the groups slant, first one way, then the other. The lower figure shows how to make a fringe for a tidy or bureau or sideboard scarf. First, draw a space half an inch wide all around the piece to be worked, two inches from the edge. Hemstitch the sides, folding the hem as usual, but do not fold the hem across the space. Instead, after the double hemstitching is done, ravel the space below to form the fringe. Across the ends, an inch above the fringe, make another row of double hemstitch.

"coming out" entertainments, as their daughters reach the age when they can properly appear in society.

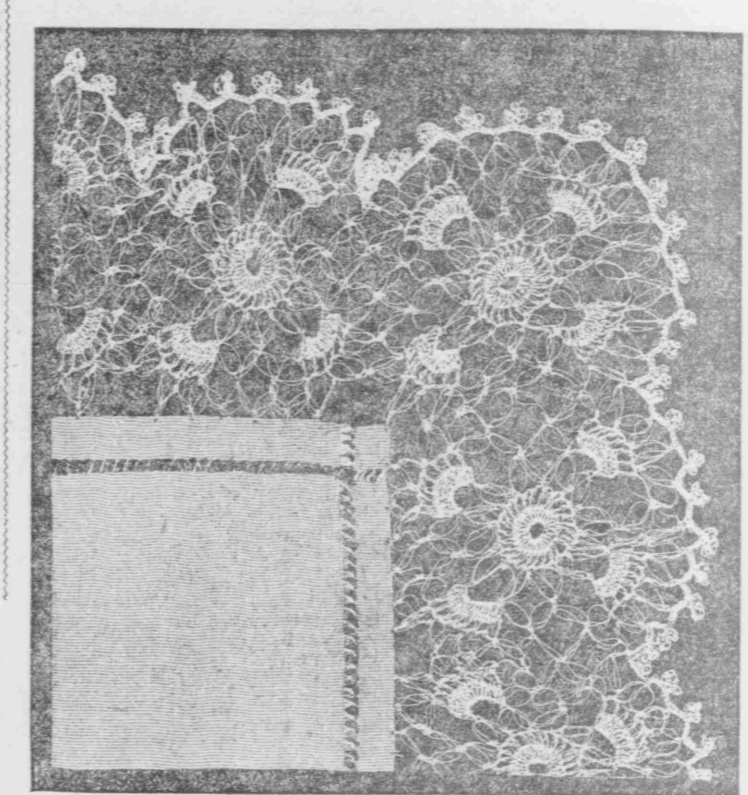
Each affair has been a little in advance of the preceding one in the matter of magnificence. But what seems to be the high-water mark has been reached by William C. Whitney, who spent the tidy sum of \$25,639 in introducing his stepdaughter, Miss Adelaide Randolph, to society.

There are not many, even in the glittering circle of the most exclusive set, who can afford, or who would care, to spend a fortune upon one entertainment given for the benefit of a girl just out of school. The items of the bill, as compiled by one who vouches for their accuracy, are as follows:

Supper \$3,000
Light luncheon 2,000
Cordon rouge 4,000
Electric work in ballroom 1,000
Language 2,100
Other wine 300
Automobile for carrying favors, special design for evening 1,500
Cut flowers, palms and ferns 2,200
Music 1,500
Extra carriage for Sherry's men, police, detectives, etc. 200
Total \$25,639

It must not be supposed that the figures quoted sum up the entire expense of bringing a daughter "out" on the William C. Whitney scale of extravagance. Besides the entertainment the fond stepfather of course obliged to pay for an elaborate new gown. A superb set of jewels were also necessary.

For days and perhaps weeks the electricians are at work preparing for a "coming out party," putting up the wires for electric illuminations that take the shape of blazing crosses, stars, wreaths and flowers. When the electricians have finished their work the carpenters and decorators come in, and after them the florists. Finally, the caterer prepares the feast and all is ready for girl and gown and jewels to be placed on exhibition.

ANOTHER GOOD IDEA
FOR WIDE LACE BORDER

KNOT LACE AND FAN

THE square of linen is first prepared as described for the knot-lace border after the hemstitching is done six and three-fourths inches on each side.

First row. Chain 10, join in a ring. Second row. Chain 5, 23 trebles in the ring.

Third row. Chain 5, treble between first and second treble * chain 2, treble between next 2 trebles, repeat from *.

Fourth row. * 2 knot-stitches, skip one space, fasten with single in next space, repeat from * all around, making 12 groups of 2 knot-stitches.

Fifth row. Fasten thread in top of knot-stitch * chain 8, fasten in top of next knot-stitch, turn, chain 3, 15 trebles under the chain of 8, turn, chain 5, treble between 2nd and 3rd treble, chain 5, skip one space, treble between next 2 trebles, repeat across the fan, 2 knot-stitches, fasten in top of next knot-stitch, 2 knot-stitches, fasten in top of next knot-stitch, 2 knot-stitches in first space of fan, 2 knot-stitches in 2d space and 2 knot-stitches in last space of fan, repeat 2 times more, and the wheel is complete.

THE HOUSEKEEPER'S EXCHANGE

OFTEN wonder why it is that I never hear of anybody advocating the eight hours a day for women and children. I read much of tradesmen, such as plumbers, machinists, painters, bricklayers and other trades trying to reduce the hours of

labor. Why not reduce the hours of women and children that work in the mills around Philadelphia? They start to work in the morning at half-past six o'clock and work till six at night, with three-quarters of an hour for dinner. They are standing on their feet all day long, winter and summer, and can hardly afford to take a week's vacation in summer. It seems a crime to take little children out of their beds at half-past five o'clock of a cold winter's morning to send them to work ten or eleven hours a day when they ought to be at school.

"A MOTHER."

Fifty-odd years ago Mrs. Tonna, an Englishwoman, writing under the sobriquet of "Charlotte Elizabeth," aroused Christian England by depicting the lives of women and children in factory and mine. Her books were the direct means of modifying labor laws which bore oppressively upon these two classes of operatives.

Her books are now out of print. I have not seen a copy of "The Lion of the Tribe of Judah" or of "The Wrongs of Women" in forty years. Yet I recall, as if I had handled them yesterday, the hot thrills of indignation, alternating with chills of horror, that ran through heart and pulses as I read over the water-thumbed books—middle-aged even then—which told me of outrages I fondly believed could never be enacted in free and happy America.

Seated in my quiet study, warm as summer on a day when my windows look out upon a world of whirling white, where naked tree-boughs wrestle with the north wind and naught else faces the storm—a reminiscent shock passes through me with the reading of the story I have set at the head of this column. We, who have sheltered homes, where the children are the most cherished treasures, cannot appreciate as realities the pictures graphically indicated in this mother's letter. We who hold as a principle of hygienic faith and practice the old nursery rule to "let children sleep until they awake of themselves," take in slowly the image of the shivering little creatures dragged from their beds before daylight, hurried into their clothes, hurried through their breakfast, and hurried off to the mills through sleet, snow or bitter black frost, to be in line when the seven o'clock whistles blow. Still less can we believe in the long hours of toil that wear away the day of eleven hours, and the weary homeward tramp through the wintry twilight.

I, for one, refuse to credit the tale in all its cruel details until it is confirmed by other witnesses. It is incredible that such a system can prevail in a humane community at a time when the air is rife with reforms of all sorts.

I but set down the tale as it is given to me. If it be true in all its gruesome particulars, then it is time for philanthropic legislation to awake out of sleep and correct abuses that would disgrace beaehemdom. If the story be exaggerated by a mother's jealous love for her over-worked little ones, I shall thankfully record rebutting testimony.

"Kindly tell me what will keep you up that is made from sugar from grain. I have tried cream of tartar, but it changes the taste."

"Could a married woman, who has an allowance for household expenses, if she saves some, invest same in her own name?"

1. Do not stir it while it is cooking, and take from the fire before it "threads."

2. She can, and she ought to put such savings aside in a good savings bank. One woman in ten years laid by \$100 in dribs and drabs, and when a "rainy day"—one of furious storm and stress—came upon the household, astonished her dependent husband by producing her bank book.

Lay away something weekly, if it be no more than a dollar or a dime.

THE CARE OF CHILDREN

HAVE a baby dress of my own, made of white batiste, and trimmed with a great quantity of pure thread lace. It has grown yellow from lying in a trunk. I hope you know of something not too strong for the lace, as I want to use the dress now for my own little one.

Rip the lace off carefully, so as not to break a mesh of the upper edge. Lay in soft lukewarm water, in which you have dissolved a teaspoonful of pure borax to three pints of water, and let it lie there for a day. Wash then in more warm water with a perfectly bland soap; rub gently bit by bit, and rinse, first, in borax water, then in pure lukewarm water. Have ready a large bottle covered with old linen tacked on smoothly. Begin at the top and sew the lace on, winding evenly around the bottle, taking every figure to the linen, pulling the edges into shape and putting a stitch into each point and scallop. When all is on, dip the bottle into soft warm water and borax in the proportions just indicated, and set the bottle upon a towel in a sunny window, where the air can reach it, but where no dust will blow on it. Repeat the wetting when the lace has dried, turning the bottle that the sun may get at all sides.

Remove carefully before it is quite dry, if it is sufficiently bleached; pull straight with your fingers, fold and put under a heavy weight until it is wanted.

"I have a little niece, 9 years old, who has a birthmark on her left cheek about two-and-a-half inches long and two inches wide. Is it possible to have it removed? She would be quite pretty but for this blemish. Her family could not afford to pay a high fee. They are common working people with a large family. J. W."

It is altogether possible to have the blemish removed, and it should be done at any cost. Do you not know of some benevolent surgeon who would be willing to accept his fee in monthly installments, after "making a price" for a poor man? There are such, I am glad to say.

"Will you kindly advise me what to do for a little boy 14 months old? He has cut only seven teeth, and the four upper ones are beginning to decay. I gave him some of a patent cough medicine some time ago, and I think it must have been the medicine that caused the trouble. S. B."

There is either an excess of acid in the child's system or a lack of phosphates—probably both. First of all, I should have his teeth examined by a good dentist—not a mere tooth-puller, but an educated man. He can tell you what the fault is in the structure of the baby's teeth. Mix a little lime-water with his milk, give him oatmeal porridge and other bone-making foods. Don't let him eat sweets freely. You may not be able to save the deciduous teeth, but you can strengthen the second set before they break the gum. Act quickly and decidedly.

"I would like to ask your advice about what to do for my little baby girl. Her hands and face are always chapped. It is not the wind that makes it. She will not stay in the house. I have tried powder and vaseline, but it does not do much good. M. A."

The probability is that you do not wipe her skin perfectly dry after washing her face and hands. Too little stress is laid upon this in directions for keeping the skin smooth. Dry the hands with a soft towel and hold them wrapped in it until they are warm as well as dry. Pat her face with



A DAY WITH THE AMERICAN GIRL—AT THE THEATRE

(DRAWN BY MALCOLM STRAUSS)